



THE COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

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Thoughts from the Board

By Kerry, W4SIG MARAC Secretary

Happy Easter weekend!

The weather is getting better, flowers are soon to bloom, and then comes pollen...Here's hoping that your month is full of health and happiness, and a few new counties! For me, March brought on some Utah rock repelling! One of many adventures I am finding out here in southern Utah.

There's a lot to cover in this issue of the *RoadRunner*. There's this issue of identifying which county a park activator is in. Well, there's a new tool I found which should help the activator of counties and parks figure out where in the heck they are. Also, Jeff, **N4RKK**, goes into detail how he tries to figure out what county a park activator is in. Jeff is famous for taking the time to get it right and then post the activation for all of us on the W6RK spotting site. We have all benefitted from Jeff's work, now he explains how he approaches his sleuthing efforts.

CONTENTS

- 3 WHERE AM I?**
- 4 PARK TO COUNTY RESEARCH**
- 7 MARAC CONVENTIONS**
- 8 CHOTY NOMINATIONS BEGIN**
- 9 STATUS OF USACA AWARD**
- 10 ROBOTICS SOFTWARE A NO-NO**
- 11 MARAC ELECTIONS**
- 13 CONNECTICUT CONFUSION**
- 18 MARAC AWARDS REPORT**
- 21 NEW MARAC MEMBERS**
- 23 FINAL COUNTDOWN**
- 26 TREASURERS REPORT**

The Michigan Mini is in a few weeks. Hopefully, you have made your plans to attend the shindig. I will be flying into Cincinnati, grabbing a rental car, and running a bunch of the state before heading up to the convention. Details on the Trips page of countyhunterweb.org. See you in Michigan!

Also, don't forget to mark your calendars for the MARAC National in West Virginia this

fall. Should be a great time to see the leaves in all their glory and spend some time with all your county hunting friends. Details follow.

The 2023 County Hunter of the Year nomination process is underway. Please take time to recognize a MARAC member who you think is deserving of this top yearly honor, for both SSB and CW. There are many folks who are well deserving. Also the process for electing MARAC Officers and a few District Director positions is underway. Check out the deadlines in the articles of this issue.

Well, as we have discussed in prior issues, CQ Magazine has unfortunately ceased operations. With this comes the complications surrounding their First Time Around award we all know as the USACA. We are announcing some significant news surrounding this topic. Please read the enclosed article.

Have you ever tried for the MARAC US Presidents or Native American awards? Well, there is some big news here. Dave, **KE3VV**, took it upon himself to do some extensive research to update the counties that are eligible for the list. Hint: Just because a county is named Clinton, doesn't mean it was named after the 42nd president. Check out the article with more details.

Oh, Connecticut, what are you doing? Why must you make our county hunting chase so dramatic? Al, **N1API**, reports that he is confused as to where he lives anymore! This topic has definitely come up lately with the elimination of counties and the creation of Councils. Read up on the details below and what MARAC is going to do with the Nutmeg State.

The Final Countdown list continues to grow! So many are getting close to finishing them all up for a particular MARAC award. Check it out monthly to see if you may be able to help them wrap it up. Also, if you are on the list, please make sure to keep my updated if your final needs change.

April is a BIG month for State QSO parties. Check out the list. And remember to please post the counties you hear so that your fellow hunters can get some they may need. We all must help each other out!

Heard mobile on the air this month were many familiar calls. **N5MLP** was out in TX, **N4CD** and **W0BH** ran some OK, **K7TQ** was active in ID. **KB6UF** ran up his LC award level to over 2300 (wow!) on a trip from CA to NV/ID/MT/MN/IL/IA). **W4SIG** was active in UT and NV. **K4YT** made several trips in VA. **N9JF** could be heard in IL along with **W5VS** and **KA4RRU** in VA. **NN9K** was busy in IL. **K0DEQ** spent several days running MO. **NA8W** made a run from FL up to OH and back. Even Gene, **K5GE**, got out for a few in central TX. Thanks so much to all the mobiles, the spotters, and the relayers!

That's all for now, enjoy the packed issue. Happy Hunting and...

73

Kerry W4SIG



Look out below!

What County am I Currently In?

By Kerry W4SIG

If you are old fashioned like me, I like to refer to my good old road atlas to see what county I am in while mobile. Also, I have greatly utilized the downloadable “overlay” map that you can get from W4YDY’s website (contact Dave on how to download it). With this overlay, I can watch my trusty GPS and see when a county line is approaching. I can also see if I am heading right by a close county line that wouldn’t take too far of a detour to run.

However, there is another tool I just ran across! “There’s an ap for that!” Yes, **there is an ap for iPhone users called “County Finder”**. This ap will show you what county you are currently in and also how fast you are driving! I have tried it and it works like a champ. Please inform your POTA activators of this ap. You can go to the ap store on your phone and easily download it. It is free. This should come in particularly helpful to park activators who do not know which county they are in. I have just downloaded it on my iPhone. If you need help, ask your kids or grandkids and they can show you. 😊

How to Find County of a POTA Activation

By Jeff, N4RKK

If you are like me, you are getting a lot of needed counties (especially for the MARAC No Star Award) from the many Park activations. Thankfully, club members like Jeff, N4RKK, take the time to research and spot counties of many park activations for the benefit of us all. How does Jeff do it? Well here ya go, straight from the master, Jeff himself:

From time to time, county hunters have asked me how I determine the counties of park activators. I use a wide range of sources to finalize a post and I only post stations and their counties when I am very sure they are correct. I have found the need to cross check sources with one another to feel confident of a posting. The technique for determining a park's county can take many paths.

Here are several current sources used to determine counties and some comments:

- 1. The POTA posting website, Parks on the Air | POTA is my point of beginning. From the park spot on the POTA website, you can click on the park number/name which refers you to a page containing more information about the park including a primary park website and a map of the park's location (Source 1 map).*
- 2. The primary website is particularly useful for states like NY, PA and MO. Those three state's websites will usually lead you to a map of the park which includes the name of the county/counties. The other forty-seven states park's primary websites may or may not have any useful information regarding the park's size and county.*
- 3. The map of the park's location (Source 1 map) does not include county lines, but you can get a good reference of the park's location relative to local towns. Using the website County lines over OpenStreetMaps (mob-rule.com) maps (which include county lines) in conjunction with the Source 1 map, you can frequently establish the park's county.*
- 4. There is a special case when using the Source 1 map, namely Alaska. You can*

use Court Venue Map 2015 (alaska.gov) (which delineates the judicial districts) to help locate the judicial district of the station's location.

5. Another website source is WWFF Park-County Database (countyhunter.com). This site lists the county/counties for the park and it is pretty reliable. Type in the park number in the find function and it will highlight that park if they have it listed. There are two problems with this website. First, they don't list many of the POTA parks. Second, the website occasionally lists a few errors including the wrong county and it doesn't always list all the counties a park is in. Again, you need to cross check their information with other sources. They make corrections to their listings when notified.

6. Another source is Microsoft Bing. From the POTA posting site, you can copy the name of the park and go to Bing and do a search. Bing is good in that their map function gives the county lines and the county names. You have to zoom in and out to find the right altitude for the county lines to show up. As you move the map around, the name of the county changes accordingly. The trick is to determine if the park is in more than one county. You will have to zoom out to see if the park boundaries extend beyond the county that Bing shows. Some parks are in segments so you have to watch out for that. If the park is inconspicuous, go to Delorme Atlas of that state for the most complete information about the separate segments.

7. If the park is in more than one county, ask the operator for his county. Fifty percent of the operators either don't know the county they are in or can't copy CW well enough to understand your question (even when you QRS the question). Even when the operator gives their county, you will have to cross check it. Operators can give the wrong county. By cross checking other sources, you can determine if their reply matches the other references.

8. Sometimes all the map references will not give a conclusive county name. When this happens, you'll have to look for the park information on one or more websites. There can be a reference to the county/counties for the park on some website link.

9. When asked what county an operator is in, sometimes the station operator will give their 6 character grid square so you will go to the website Amateur Radio Maidenhead Grid Square Locator Map - KarhuKoti that shows the county outline and local towns. From there you can determine the county.

10. You can use the Delorme Atlas to help finalize the county.

11. Look for the park's size on your website searches. The size of a park helps determine if a park is confined to one county or multiple counties. Larger parks require more care to determine what county/counties it is located in.

12. *Be wary of park names. You can't use a park's name to assume that it gives you the right information. For instance, K-6896 Columbus County Gameland in North Carolina extends into Brunswick County, NC.*

13. *One final note, I assume that the activating station posts their correct park number. This can generate a few errors if they spot the wrong park. It is a red flag when the operator sends a state that differs from the one listed by the POTA website. Also, sometimes a station works a specific geographic area so a posting in a different part of the country indicates they may have given the wrong park number.*

All of this research for the POTA station's county takes time. It's a real scramble to search the sources before the POTA station decides to QRT. Most of the time after spotting a county on W6RK, I'll stick around the POTA station for a short time to see if there is any interest from the county hunters or if the station goes QRT. If I hear the station QRT, I withdraw the posting on the W6RK site.

If you want to focus on adding only new parks to your parks list, first create an account at Parks on the Air | POTA, click the "sign up" button to create the account. Then in the upper right-hand corner, place the cursor over your call sign and click on "My Stats". Pick the state where the POTA station is located and it will list all the parks you have worked in that state. Sometimes parks extend into several states so you may have worked a particular park in a different state.

Occasionally I'll spot a SOTA station. I start the process at the SOTAwatch link, SOTAwatch3. From there I click on the blue summit location which takes you to detailed information about the summit including several maps links. I click on the GaiaGPS then I add a county line layer and zoom out if necessary to determine the county.

I hope this clarifies how I post a park activator's park.

73 and God Bless,
Jeff N4RKK

MARAC Michigan Mini

By Kerry W4SIG

The dates for the 2024 Michigan Mini are **THIS MONTH** April 25-27 in Midland, Michigan. Dorie has the hotel all lined up and the marac.org website is all set up to accept your reservations. Please go ahead and make your reservations online and secure your MARAC group rate at the host Springhill Suites Hotel. Mark your calendars for this fun annual shindig. See you there!



2024 MARAC National Convention

By Kerry W4SIG

The 2024 MARAC National Convention has been approved to be held on Oct 9-12 in **Bridgeport, West Virginia**! Please thank Alan-**W8OP**/Steve-**K8II**/Ed-**N8OYY** for volunteering to be co-hosts of next year's convention. Details can be found on the MARAC website under Events. Hotel reservations can be made now for the special rate. Convention registration will be available online early in 2024. In the meantime, mark your calendars to attend!



West Virginia in the Fall!

2023 County Hunter of the Year

By Kerry W4SIG

It is time to begin the 2023 SSB and CW County Hunter of the Year (**CHOTY**) nomination process. It is the top honor of recognition for the year. Please take this time to nominate who you think is deserving of consideration.

Please read below for important dates and deadlines associated with the 2023 CHOTY Process.

- 1) **3/5/24** Nomination period begins for both SSB and CW CHOTY
 - 2) 2/1/2023 through 1/31/2024 is the 12-month period of activity associated with nominations for 2024. Nomination guidelines can be found in the Award Rules section of the marac.org website
 - 3) **4/30/2024** Nomination period ends at 11:59pm Pacific Daylight Time. ([Nominations should be sent to Darl, NA8W, MARAC Great Lakes District Director na8w@arri.net](#)).
 - 4) 5/1 through 5/20/2024 Awards Committee reviews nominations and determines up to three individuals who will appear as nominees for each category (SSB and CW) on the election ballot.
 - 5) 5/21/2024 Final list of nominees for each category along with supporting documentation (nomination justification and biographical information) forwarded to the Election Coordinator for publication in the June issue of the *RoadRunner*.
 - 6) June 2024 Election Coordinator conducts election via electronic voting service to determine winners.
 - 7) July 2024 Winners announced during the Annual MARAC meeting.
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CQ MAGAZINE USACA AWARD STATUS

By Kerry W4SIG

I am sure everyone is wondering what is going to happen to the CQ Magazine's USACA award now that the organization has now unfortunately ceased operations.

From Brian, NX0X (CQ Magazine USACA Award Custodian):

I am not issuing the USA-CA award in any format other than the WBOW. I will do that as many folks have put a tremendous amount of time and money getting as far as they have. I can issue them a certificate under the rules we have always used but that's all I can do as there is no "CQ" entity to report to. Once my stock is gone, it's gone.

Now, with that being covered, what is MARAC going to do? Well, rest assured that your Board has been expecting this and has been working diligently for months on the topic. While all the details have yet to be finalized, I am proud to officially announce that the **MARAC Board has decided to, at a date to be determined soon, add a First Time Around Award to its many various awards offered to county hunters. The details will be forthcoming.** We have a lot to work out and many decisions to be made. Please bear with us as we get everything sorted out. In addition to simply offering the award, the Board, as always, wants to do everything it can to encourage county hunting activity which has been on the decline. Remember that the USACA award has not been publicized by CQ Magazine for over a decade. Only 10 new certificates have been awarded over the last 5 years. We want to modernize and attract new hams into the county hunting fold. We will keep all this in mind while finalizing our approach.

If you are working on your first time around USACA award, you are covered. If you are approaching the WBOW you will be able to apply thru NX0X. Or, if you are approaching any of the endorsement levels of the award like 500, 1000, all the way to the Whole Ball of Wax keep working at it as MARAC will be there and ready to award you!

Use of Robotic Software to Make Digital Contacts

By Kerry W4SIG

This topic has become a hot one with several members. Can a station use software to allow his/her station to make automatic digital contacts, even if the operator is not present and manning the station? This software is now available, and more stations are utilizing it. While this operation is allowed under ARRL rules, it is **NOT** allowed under MARAC rules. Please remember that if you utilize this type of operation, your contacts should **NOT** be counted toward MARAC awards. As a reminder, page 11 of the MARAC award rules states:

Robotic or Unattended Operation

All contacts for MARAC awards require that the operator be physically involved in each and every contact, without the aid of software that would otherwise make the contacts without the presence of the operator.

MARAC Contest in July

By John, WA4JA

The 2024 edition of the MARAC County Hunting Contest will be on July 27-28. More details will follow.

Updated US Presidents and Native American Awards

By Kerry W4SIG

Dave, **KE3VV**, has completed an exhaustive search on the counties required for these awards. Many updates have been made and are now implemented into the latest version of Logger. Many thanks to Dave and Don, **K3IMC**, for their work on this huge project!



Upcoming MARAC Elections

By Ron, KF7ZN, MARAC Election Coordinator

Nominations due May 15, election June 1. Send official notice of interest to Election Coordinator Ron, KF7ZN at rglogan73@gmail.com

This time of the year brings our **Officer and Director elections**. Please be aware that the **deadline for nominations is May 15** and I will be sending out the ballot, if needed, on **June 1**. This year we will be voting for **all of the officers**: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. We will also be voting for two directors: Great Lakes Director and Southeastern Director. If you have a nomination, please email me with the information. You can find my email on the MARAC database and QRZ.com.

Here are the areas/states that these directors represent.

Great Lakes District - Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and the Canadian call area for VE3

Southeast District - Alabama, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Africa and the Caribbean Islands.

Here is a description of the role and its responsibilities that Kerry, **W4SIG**, has previously posted for directors:

Responsibilities of MARAC District Director

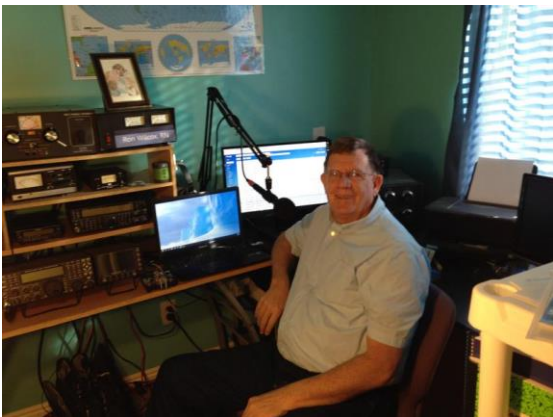
- *Shall adopt all policies of MARAC in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws*
- *Serves a 3-year term, with the option of volunteering for subsequent terms*
- *Participates in Board discussions regarding topics related to MARAC. This can be via email or during periodic (usually monthly) conference calls*
- *Attend and participate in official Board Meetings via conference call. These meetings are held when needed, usually about 4 per year. During these meetings make motions and vote on orders of business. This includes the MARAC annual Board meeting usually held in July.*
- *Act as a focal point of communications for members of your District when issues or questions arise.*
- *Serve as a liaison of communications to an appointed MARAC position*
- *Be creative in finding ways to assist MARAC in supporting its members and growing our club*

For more information about the role of the officers please reach out to our current officers or see the MARAC website, go to About, and then Bylaws.

We will let you know before the June 1 voting date the status of each position and the nominations.

73

Ron KF7ZN



Ron, KF7ZN

AI5P Mobile Trip in May

By Kerry W4SIG

Rick, **AI5P**, has asked me to inform everyone that he has a major county/park activation trip coming up in May. He will share details very soon!

What Happened to Connecticut Counties?

Contributed by Mark WB9CIF

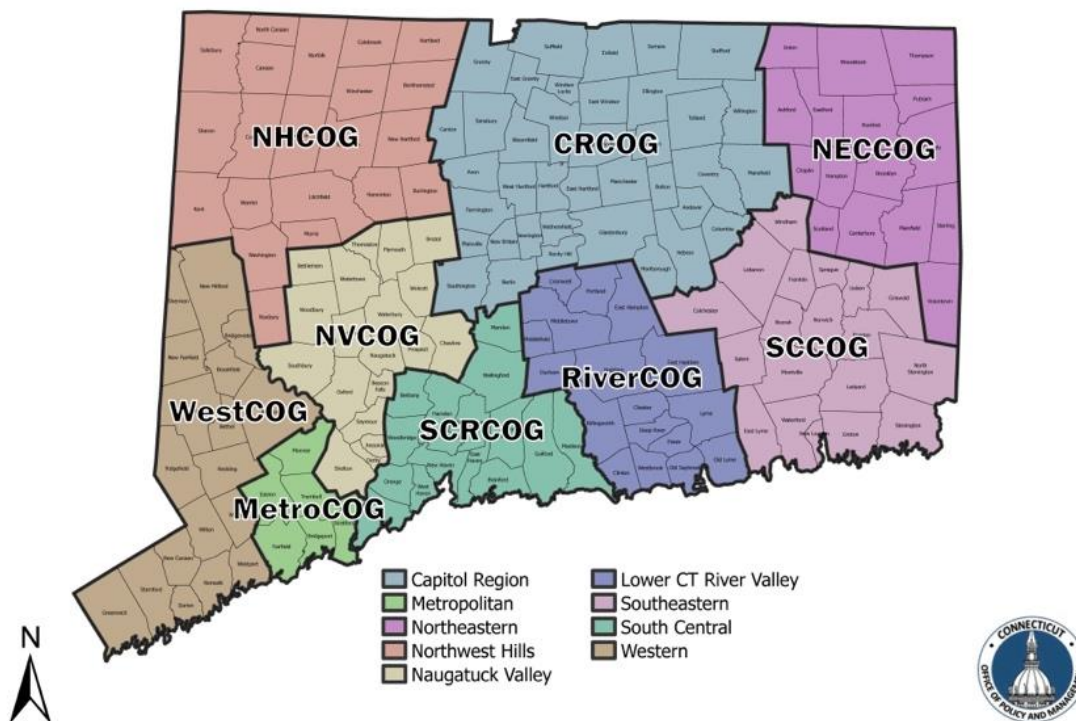
A long time ago (1960) Connecticut eliminated county government. County names have remained “on the books” and on maps ever since, and mostly used to deal with interactions with the US Census and other Federal programs. Every square inch of the state is within the boundaries of 169 different towns where local control is the basis of most local government decisions. Over the years, a series of regional planning districts (Council of Governments) have been assembled to deal with regional transportation, air quality and other areas where cooperation between towns is necessary.

In 2019, the state formally requested that the US Census Bureau approve a proposal to recognize Connecticut’s nine planning regions as the statistical equivalent of counties for the purpose of tabulating and publishing future Census data. This went through a two-year review process and was finally approved in mid-2022. This year (2024) will see the first release of data based on regional planning districts.

The New England QSO Party will recognize the change beginning with the 2024 NEQP. This change will add one multiplier in CT, making for a total of 68 in New England. We will work with software authors to make sure that the “county” change is reflected in current software versions. There will be several other contest rules changes as well, noted elsewhere.

There may be some confusion with those giving NEQP contact information and with those outside of New England. The log checking process will make sure that all entries are scored the same way, with the same list of 68 multipliers.

Regional Councils of Governments in Connecticut



New Connecticut multipliers for the NEQP

CTCAP	Capital Region
CTGBR	Greater Bridgeport
CTLCR	Lower CT River
CTNAU	Naugatuck Valley
CTNOE	Northeastern
CTNOW	Northwest Hills
CTSOE	Southeastern
CTSOC	South Central
CTWES	Western

For additional information:

History

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/23bc7986213547a79cb8a5dafa84d68d>

Map of Regional Planning Districts

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/OPM/IGPP/ORG/COGs/PDFCOGspdf.jpg>

Towns in each District

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/OPM/IGPP/Municipal-Directories/Municipalities-Planning-Region-COG.pdf>

Federal Register publication

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/06/06/2022-12063/change-to-county-equivalents-in-the-state-of-connecticut>

How is MARAC Handling CT?

By Kerry W4SIG

Again, I can't emphasize enough all the the MARAC Board has been working on lately. Connecticut is definitely one of them. Should MARAC stay put with the legendary county system or change to the new Councils? After a lot of research, input, and debate, the **MARAC Board has decided to stay put with the legendary county system**. Why, you ask? Here are our many reasons:

- 1) The FCC database, Buckmaster, QRZ, and major roadmaps all indicate the traditional counties in CT.
- 2) Even the National Weather Service in CT still uses legendary counties.
- 3) Most everyone in CT knows what county they are in, but few even know of the existence of the new Councils (the announcement of councils has never been very widely publicized to the citizens of the state).
- 4) The NEQP is the first and only ham organization that has chosen to change to councils. Many think they have jumped the gun.
- 5) The president of the largest ham club in CT that used to run the CT QSO Party is totally against a change to Councils in the NEQP.

- 6) Since there are no signs posted for councils nor roadmaps indicating council boundaries, it would be very difficult for a mobile to know which council they are in.
- 7) Converting prior contacts from county to Council is not straightforward as boundaries are not the same. Six of the counties would be a relatively straightforward change to their corresponding councils due the "approximate" similarity in boundaries. The other two counties are basically comprised of the other 4 councils. This all creates a challenge on which council to assign for prior contacts.

It is true that someday in the future, as other entities change over to councils, MARAC may have to also. Don, **K3IMC**, has a plan in mind which he could implement to do the conversion as best as possible. However, for now, the Board's consensus is that our club not make any changes to the CT counties.

Logger Support Announcement

By Kerry W4SIG

This is a reminder....As mentioned in the opening article of previous months' RoadRunner, a new support structure has been created for support of the Logger program. PLEASE, everyone send ALL Logger questions/problems to Dave, **KE3VV**, davidsplitt@erols.com. DO NOT send them directly to Logger programmer, Don, **K3IMC**. Dave will look over your issue and try to resolve it. If he cannot, he will package the issues and effectively relay them to Don for attention. This move is VERY necessary to alleviate the workload on Don. He is very busy making Logger the best program it can be and implementing new features all the time. So, everyone please remember this procedure when you have any issues with Logger. It will make everything flow more smoothly and allow Don to keep some of his hair! Hi!

MARAC Booth at Dayton Hamvention

By Kerry W4SIG

MARAC will once again host a booth at the 2024 Dayton Hamvention this spring. Mike, **NF0N**, is spearheading the booth this year with help from Alan, **W8OP**, and Sharon, **KJ8F**. We will be in Building 5 at booth number #5103. Please stop by for a chat, sit for a spell, and maybe give a break to one of the other county hunters so they can walk around a bit.



Dayton, not Xenia 😊



MARAC Awards Report

By Kerry, W4SIG

The following are the awards that were earned and processed for the last month. Note that some members do not apply for levels of awards (i.e. 1000, 2000, 3000, etc), but rather wait until they work all 3077 to apply. Thus, some may have worked all 3077, yet do not have the various lower level awards.

Awards Issued:			
Call	Award	Level	Cert. No.
W4SIG	RAN ALL MS 2ND TIME		3
W4SIG	RAN ALL AR 2ND TIME		3
W4SIG	2X2 CALLS	3000	3
W4SIG	RAN ALL UT 2ND TIME		4
K4YT	MOBILE DIAMOND		14
KC3X	WAC 13TH TIME		3
K4YFH	ALL CW 2ND TIME		45
K4YFH	WAC 3RD TIME		263
KB6UF	RAN ALL MT		31

Roadrunner Awards:		
Call	LC Count	Cert. No.
KB6UF	2250	2
KB6UF	2275	2
KB6UF	2300	2
K4YT	775	23
K4YT	800	23
W4SIG	1150	9

Opening - MARAC Awards Manager

By Kerry W4SIG

Please consider volunteering for this important MARAC role. Contact any Board member for more info. The description of the position is stated below.

Responsibilities/Duties of the MARAC Awards Manager

1. Administers the MARAC Awards program in accordance with the policies and procedures adopted by the Board of Directors
2. Acts as the chairperson of the Awards Committee, which creates and considers proposals for new MARAC awards or changes to existing awards
3. Maintains the official MARAC Award Rules document and ensures that all rule changes are published in a timely manner after they are approved by the Board of Directors on both:
 - a. The MARAC Awards subsection of the MARAC website, and
 - b. The Awards Committee section of the monthly newsletter to members.
4. Initiates reviews of new awards or modifications to existing awards by the Awards Committee. Suggestions for award additions or modifications may originate from awards committee members, members of MARAC (including but not limited to officers/directors), or outside persons not currently members of MARAC.
5. Establishes the timeline for the process to determine winners of certain MARAC awards which occur on a recurring basis each year, including:

County Hunter of the Year – SSB/CW, Mobile of the Year-SSB/CW, Mobile Assist of the Year-SSB/CW, Mobile Team of the Year
6. Communicates to the Election Coordinator when electronic elections should occur to support the determination of award winners listed in section 5 above. Also, notifies the Election Coordinator during the execution of the process whether electronic elections will not be required for certain awards (e. g., County

Hunter of the Year) if there was only one nominee identified during the nomination process.

7. Creates and publishes notifications in the monthly newsletter when the nomination process for County Hunter of the Year – SSB and CW actually begins and the subsequent deadlines that must be followed in order for members and Directors to complete and submit their nominations to support the determination process.
8. Ensures that the activities in items 5, 6, and 7 supports conclusions on each of the annual awards by June so that the information can be incorporated in the annual MARAC report to the membership and is announced at the MARAC annual meeting in July.
9. Responds to inquiries from the Board of Directors or any member concerning: a) award rules, or b) interpretation of the rules.
10. Oversees the activities of the Award Secretary to support:
 - a. Processing of applications for awards from members and non-members
 - b. Creation of certificates and plaques requested by members which are supported by electronic applications.
 - c. Reporting of cost expenditures for the awards function to the MARAC Treasurer who receives payments from members, pays invoices from plaque/award vendors, or reimburses the Awards Secretary for other expenses including office supplies, computer equipment purchase/maintenance, shipping costs, etc.
 - d. Timely reporting of awards issued to the membership using various vehicles including but not limited to the monthly newsletter articles and direct posts to the K3IMC forum or CountyHunter.com website.
 - e. Acquisition of plaques, trophies, etc. from appropriate vendors of such items.
11. Authors a monthly Awards Committee article to the *RoadRunner* editor (by the date specified by the *RoadRunner* editor) for inclusion in the monthly newsletter. As a minimum, one section of each month's article should include a summary of all awards issued during the month. Special topics within the article may address new award types which have been recently approved, clarification of award rules, changes in online application forms, information about known award processing issues in the computer systems supporting awards, or other topics of interest regarding awards to the membership.
12. Handles awards related special tasks as assigned by the MARAC Board of Directors.

Silent Keys

Our thoughts and prayers go out to these members and their families:



None to report this month.



New MARAC Members

By Kerry-W4SIG

MARAC would like to welcome the following New Members as well as those who have rejoined after a lapse of membership of two years or more. We want every member to feel welcomed. If anyone has any questions, contact your District Director or one of the board members. We'll be glad to get you in touch with the proper person.

K5UHF – Jeff Tostenrude #4864, Williamson Cty, TX

KX1W - Ron Fish, #4865, Atlantic Cty, NJ

W9MDB – Mike Black, #4866, Adams Cty, Illinois

MARAC General Counsel Opening

By Bill, K0DEQ

OPENING! GENERAL COUNSEL FOR MARAC NEEDED

MARAC GENERAL COUNSEL DUTIES:

The general counsel for MARAC is responsible for providing legal advice to the officers, directors and other officials of MARAC concerning the business and activities of the corporation.

This includes reviewing proposed contracts with the venue at which a MARAC meeting is to be held, as well as giving advice concerning communications received by MARAC relating to possible legal issues.

Awards Committee Opening Northeast District

By Kerry, W4SIG

Are you in the MARAC Northeast District? This would include **CT, MA, ME, NH, NJ, NY, RI, VT, VE1, VE2, VE9, VY2, Europe**. If so, your club could use your help. We have had an opening for a representative from this district to serve on the Awards Committee for several years. You would be involved in the decisions on any MARAC Awards rules changes or any new awards that are proposed. We have a very experienced and dedicated group on the committee and would love for you to join them. Interested? Please contact any Board member and let him know. We sure could use you!

Final Countdown

Kerry-W4SIG

The following MARAC Members need less than 10 counties for the “Whole Ball of Wax”, also known as WBOW for various awards. Let’s give them a hand! If you have less than 10 to go in the entire country for any MARAC Award please send those needs to Kerry, **W4SIG**, for inclusion in this new monthly article. Please keep me updated as these lists dwindle so we have accurate info for mobiles that want to help you out.

- K2MF** 40 Meters – **HI**: Kalawao, **MT**: McCone
- K2MF** 30 Meters – **CA**: Alpine **HI**: Kalawao
- W4SIG** W Prefix - **NJ**: Hudson
- W4SIG** 1x3 Callsigns --- **AK**: 2nd, 3rd, 4th
- W4SIG** 20 CW – **AR**: Scott, **GA**: Jasper Newton, **TN**: Cannon
- W4SIG** 20 SSB – **IA**: Lucas, **LA**: Bienville, Tensas, **TN**: Crockett
- W4SIG** 40M CW—**LA**: Avoyelles, **TX**: Foard, Runnels
- N4RS** 40M CW – **AK**: 2nd
- N5MLP** A Prefix – **LA**: Grant, Vermillion, Vernon **MS**: Issaquena **TN**: Hardeman, Houston, Marshall **VA**: Mathews **WA**: Garfield
- N5MLP** SSB – **GA**: Oconee, Thomas, **IL**: DeKalb, **KY**: Cumberland, Edmonson, Grayson, **MI**: Barry, **NC**: Pamlico, **TN**: Lewis, **VA**: Orange
- N0KV** K Prefix – **ID**: Teton **NE**: Nance **SD**: Haakon **WV**: McDowell **WY**: Goshen
- N0KV** Mobile to Mobile – **KY**: Knott, Larue, Menifee **NC**: Catawba, Lee **VA**: Lunenburg, Mathews
- K4YT** Mobile to Mobile – **CA**: Marin, Nevada, **MD**: Calvert **OR**: Benton
- K4YT** A Prefix – **MS**: Issaquena, Sharkey **TN**: Perry **VA**: Craig
- K4YT** W Prefix – **GA**: Baker, **HI**: Kalawao **NY**: Lewis

- K4YT** Mobile Diamond – **IN:** Christian, **WA:** Island, San Juan
- K4YT** 40 Meters – **HI:** Kalawao, **MT:** Carter, Golden Valley, Meagher, Mineral, Roosevelt
- K0MAF** USA-CA – **IA:** Cherokee, Emmet, **MN:** Pennington
- W4YDY** A Prefix – **MS:** Oktibbeha **OH:** Putnam **PA:** Philadelphia **VA:** Amelia
- W4YDY** W Prefix – **NY:** Essex, Montgomery, **PA:** Tioga **TX:** Dickens, Somervell
VA: Floyd
- W4YDY** 1x2 Callsigns—**AL:** Perry, **AR:** Phillips, **FL:** Calhoun, **GA:** Montgomery, Wheeler, **IA:** Audubon, **TN:** Gibson, Meigs
- NU0Q** Master Gold – **AK:** 4th
- NU0Q** K Prefix – **GA:** Newton **NC:** Burke
- NU0Q** 4th Time – **HI:** Kalawao, **IN:** Scott, **NY:** Orleans
- K4CGY** USACA – **GA:** Quitman **ME:** Franklin **MN:** Lake of the Woods
- W9DC** K Prefix – **NE:** Webster
- W9DC** CW – **GA:** Chattahoochee, Effingham, Jones, **KY:** Woodford
- W9DC** 1x3 Callsigns – **GA:** Grady, **NC:** Clay, Jones, **OK:** Kiowa, **SD:** Haakon, **VA:** Nottaway
- W9DC:** Bingo III – **AR:** Madison, **KY:** Letcher, **NY:** Livingston, **OH:** Ross, **SC:** Cherokee, **TX:** Cottle, Swisher, Zavala, **VA:** Goochland
- NS2N** 20 Meters – **IN:** Delaware, Marshall **KY:** Woodford **OH:** Shelby
- NS2N** CW III – **SC:** Laurens
- NS2N** Five Star – **NJ:** Monmouth
- N2IGW** USA-CA – **HI:** Kalawao
- W8GU** USA-CA – **AK:** 2nd **OR:** Wheeler

- N1API** N Prefix – **MA:** Nantucket, **MD:** St Marys, **MS:** Issaquena, **TN:** Moore
- N1API** W Prefix—**MD:** Worchester, **NC:** Warren, **NH:** Sullivan, **NY:** Richmond, Tioga, **VA:** Accomack, Buchanan, Northumberland, Page, Richmond
- N1API** 1x3 Callsigns—**MD:** Worcester, **NC:** Warren, **NH:** Sullivan, **NY:** Richmond, **VA:** Accomack, Buchanan, Northumberland, Richmond
- N8CIJ** 8th Time – **AK:** 2nd Dist, **IN:** Union, **MT:** Golden Valley, Treasure, **OR:** Gilliam
- N8CIJ** N Prefix – **TN:** Johnson, **WI:** Burnett
- N8CIJ** 1x3 Calls – **VA:** Charles City
- N8CIJ** K Prefix – **CO:** Hinsdale, **PA:** Forest
- KE3VV** Bingo IV – **NC:** Hertford
- KE3VV** 1x2 Calls – **MS:** Neshoba, **SD:** Turner
- W0GXQ** N Prefix – **VA:** Greene
- W0SK** USACA – **AR:** Phillips **HI:** Kalawao
- K0DEQ** All 20 Meters – **KY:** Bourbon, **OH:** Lawrence
- K8MW** 2nd Time – **TX:** Jim Hogg, Zapata
- W8OP** Bingo – **HI:** Maui, **KS:** Chase
- KC3X** CW 6th Time – **GA:** Heard, **KY:** Henderson, Letcher, **NJ:** Passaic, **OH:** Darke, Mercer, Muskingum, **TN:** Houston, Trousdale, Unicoi, **TX:** Comanche, Duval, Neuces, Tyler
- K8II** USACA – **HI:** Kalawao
- K7REL** CW 6th Time – **TX:** DeWitt, Duvall, Tyler, Willacy
- LY5A** 5th Time – **CO:** Hinsdale, **GA:** Screven, **KY:** Menifee, **MN:** Fairbault, Waseca, **SD:** Edmunds, McPherson, **TX:** Mitchell, Stephens

KC5P USACA ALL CW – **GA:** Polk, Clark, **IN:** Hamilton

N8HAM 3rd Time (SSB Only)– **ID:** Butte, Clearwater, **MT:** Chouteau, **NJ:** Hunterdon, **NY:** Cayuga, Columbia, Franklin, Oswego, **NC:** Avery, Richmond, **VT:** Rutland, **WA:** Ferry

WA3QNT 5 Star – **HI:** Honolulu (3), **MT:** Lake (2), Sanders (2), **NJ:** Essex (1), Sussex (1), **NY:** Yates (3), **OH:** Lucas (1), **OR:** Benton (1), Linn (2), **PA:** Snyder (1)

AG6V USACA (CW Only) – **AL:** Limestone, **CA:** Trinity, **MN:** Waseca, **ND:** Rolette, **OH:** Darke, Licking

Remember to keep me updated as you scratch off any of these that you need. I want to keep this list up-to-date. Many have completed their awards from this column as mobiles are aware of the few you may have to finish them up. Always glad to add YOUR needs to this column!

Treasurer's Report

By Bill, K0DEQ

Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club

FEB 20 Through MAR 19, 2024

Beginning Account Balance	\$15,153.28
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Income:

Savings Account Interest	\$
Awards Income	
Misc Income	
Membership Income	165.75
Logger Distribution Income	58.80
MI MINI income	257.08

Total Income	\$ 481.63
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Expenses:

Awards Expenses	\$ 43.48
Misc. Expenses NOTE 1	495.00
Contest expenses	
Office Expenses (Postage, etc.)	
Total expenses	<u>\$538.48</u>

Net Income Less Expenses (\$56.85)

Cash Balance \$15,096.43

Checking Account Balance	\$ 2,515.95	
Savings Account Balance	12,580.48	
Total all accounts		\$15,096.43

NOTE 1- Annual fee to Simply Voting

From a balance sheet perspective, MARAC cash balance shown above should be discounted by \$6017, which is the amount of award fees pre-paid by members. After subtracting this amount, the true (spendable) Cash Balance is \$9079.43



Bill, KODEQ, MARAC Treasurer

State QSO Parties

Courtesy WA7BNM

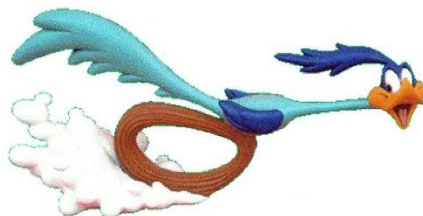
Here are the parties for this month:

April

Louisiana	± Louisiana QSO Party	1400Z, Apr 6 to 0200Z, Apr 7, 2024
Mississippi	± Mississippi QSO Party	1400Z, Apr 6 to 0200Z, Apr 7, 2024
Missouri	± Missouri QSO Party	1400Z, Apr 6 to 0400Z, Apr 7, 2024 and 1400Z-2000Z, Apr 7, 2024
New Mexico	± New Mexico QSO Party	1400Z, Apr 13 to 0200Z, Apr 14, 2024
Georgia	± Georgia QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 13 to 0359Z, Apr 14, 2024 and 1400Z-2359Z, Apr 14, 2024
North Dakota	± North Dakota QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 13 to 1800Z, Apr 14, 2024
Nebraska	± Nebraska QSO Party	1100Z, Apr 20 to 2259Z, Apr 21, 2024
Michigan	± Michigan QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 20 to 0400Z, Apr 21, 2024



The County Line ROADRUNNER



“A Roadrunner Is A Very Fast Bird”

Monthly Deadline for Articles is the 25th!

Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club Leadership Team

Board of Directors

President: Ed Eklin, K8ZZ
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Vice-President: Bill Wallace, K1YAG
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Secretary: Kerry Long, W4SIG
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Treasurer: Bill Morgan, K0DEQ
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Dues with an Electronic copy of the Newsletter copy are \$15.00 per year, check or money order. Dues may also be paid via Pay-Pal and directed to treasurer@marac.org

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Pacific Director: Paige Butler, W0FLZ
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Southeast Director: Dave Splitt, KE3VV
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Immediate Past President: Vacant

Appointed Positions

Awards Manager: Vacant

Awards Secretary: Phil Yasson, AB7RW
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MARAC General Counsel: Vacant

Publicity & Advertising Coordinator: Paige Butler W0FLZ
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